

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 12325 051231Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
INRE-00 ICAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 SAA-02 ACDA-12
HA-05 /095 W

-----020336 051233Z /53

O 051130Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3999

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

AMECONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS ROME 12325

FROM VATICAN OFFICE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, MOPS, LE, VT

SUBJECT: PAPAL APPEAL ON LEBANON

1. FOLLOWING IS ADVANCED TEXT OF PAPAL APPEAL FOR LEBANON

JULY 5:

QUOTE: IN THIS SPIRITUAL MEETING, WE WISH TO CONFIDE TO YOU,
DEAR SONS AND DAUGHTERS THE DEEP GRIEF THAT OVERWHELMS OUR
SOUL BECAUSE OF THE NEWS WE CONTINUE, FOR SOME DAYS ALREADY,
TO RECEIVE FROM LEBANON.

AFTER BLOODY ENCOUNTERS AND EPISODES OF VIOLENCE IN VARIOUS PARTS

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OF THE COUNTRY, INTENSIVE BOMBARDMENTS HAVE HIT THE CHRISTIAN
DISTRICTS OF THE CAPITAL, BEIRUT, CAUSING NUMEROUS VICTIMS
AND INJURING MANY PEOPLE, BRINGING DESTRUCTION
AND SOWING THE SEEDS OF TERROR AMONG THE DEFENSELESS POPULATION.
"WE ARE ASKING OURSELVES WITH ANGUISH: WHEN WILL THIS PAINFUL
PASSION OF THE LEBANESE PEOPLE COME TO AN END? THEY ARE GAZING
ANXIOUSLY INTO THE FUTURE OF THEIR COUNTRY, CARRIED AWAY BY

THIS STORM OF VIOLENCE AND HATRED WHICH DOES NOT SPARE
ITS YOUTH AND ITS INSTITUTIONS AND
IS UNDERMINING THE SPIRIT OF BROTHERHOOD OF ITS SONS WHO WERE
ONCE PROUD OF THE FACT THAT HEIR COUNTRY COULD DE AN EXAMPLE
OF PEACEFUL COLLABORATION FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE ENTIRE
WORLD. "WE HAVE URGED ALL THE PARTIES AND ENCOURAGED COUNTRIES,
WHICH ARE FRIENDS OF LEBANON, TO ACT COURAGEOUSLY AND LOYALLY
IN ORDER TO PREVENT CONFLICTS AND BLOODSHED AND TO RESTORE
RECONCILIATION AND SERENITY AMONG THE POPULATION. WE ARE NOW
PRESSINGLY (URGENTLY) CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE REESTABLISHMENT
OF THE TRUCE AND FOR ITS SCRUPULOUS OBSERVANCE BY EVERYBODY.

"AS FOR YOU, DEAR SONS AND DAUGHTERS, WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN
US IN OUR PRAYER TO GOD, ASKING HIM TO GIVE LIGHT TO THOSE IN
AUTHORITY, TO MAKE OUR APPEAL EFFECTIVE AND TO GIVE HOPE AND
STRENGTH TO OUR LEBANESE BROTHERS, BRINGING HEIR
SUFFERING TO AN END. END QUOTE.GARDNER

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NNN

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